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Ike Lays Cornerstone For New CIA Building

By Edward T. Folliard
Staff Reporter

President Eisenhower yesterday laid the cornerstone of an 8-story building for the Central Intelligence Agency on the Virginia bank of the Potomac near Langley. He extolled those who gather information for the Agency.

"No task could be more important," he told Director Allen Dulles and others of the CIA.

"Upon the quality of your work depends in large measure the success of our effort to further the Nation's position in the international scene.

"By its very nature the work of this agency demands of its members the highest order of dedication, ability, trustworthiness and selflessness—to say nothing of the finest type of courage, whenever needed.

Successes Unrevealed

"Success cannot be advertised; failure cannot be explained. In the work of intelligence, heroes are undecorated and unsung, often even among their own fraternity.

"Their inspiration is rooted in patriotism — their reward can be little except the con-

New section of parkway
opens to an old traffic jam.
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viction that they are performing a unique and indispensable service for their country, and the knowledge that America needs and appreciates their efforts. I assure you this is indeed true."

The Central Intelligence Agency, the need for which was made apparent by World War II and the threat of international communism afterward, was sponsored 12 years ago by President Harry S. Truman and established by the Republican-controlled 80th Congress.

Its offices and employees have been scattered in various buildings here, some of them "tempo" that will come down when the new \$46 million structure at Langley is completed in 1961.

Flies to Gettysburg

President Eisenhower, on his way from the White House to Langley, stopped off to snip a red, white and blue ribbon and open a new stretch of the George Washington Memorial

Highway that leads to the new CIA Building.

After the cornerstone-laying ceremony, he boarded a Marine Corps helicopter and flew to Gettysburg, Pa., to cast his vote in a state election.

CIA Director Dulles, in a speech that followed that of the President, said that those who gather intelligence for this country have to beware that prejudices or predilections do not slant their reports.

He said the motto on the face of the new building would be a passage from St. John: "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

The CIA Building, which is being constructed on a Government-owned tract of 140 acres, will have central air-conditioning, self-operated automatic elevators and a cafeteria and smaller dining room to seat 1400 at one time. There will be parking space for 3000 cars.

Architects for the building are Harrison & Abramovitz, with Frederic R. King as associate architect. The building is being erected by Charles H. Tompkins Co. and J. A. Jones Co. The Public Buildings Service of the General Services Administration is contract agent for the building and is supervising the work.

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